GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
LOW COST AIRLINES
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector airlines propose to operate its own low cost airlines services on domestic and international routes after the merger of Air India with Indian Airlines ;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the ticket pricing and the facilities to be offered in the said scheme ;

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be made operational; and

(d) the manner in which the introduction of low cost air service of public sector airlines is likely to be able to meet the challenges posed by the airlines of private sector ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Air India Express, the budget carrier launched by Air India`s subsidiary company is planning to commence domestic operations from October, 2007 in addition to its existing international operations.The fares charged by Air India Express would be competitive and the services offered by it comparable to the other low cost carriers operating on the same routes.